



US 20210207243A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**

Sun et al.

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2021/0207243 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Jul. 8, 2021**

(54) **SELECTIVE EXTRACTION OF LITHIUM FROM CLAY MINERALS**

Publication Classification

(71) Applicant: **TESLA, INC.**, Palo Alto, CA (US)

(51) **Int. Cl.**

C22B 7/00 (2006.01)

C22B 26/12 (2006.01)

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **C22B 7/007** (2013.01); **C22B 26/12** (2013.01)

(21) Appl. No.: **17/136,701**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 29, 2020**

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 62/956,763, filed on Jan. 3, 2020.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Processes for extracting lithium from a clay mineral and compositions thereof are described. The extraction process includes providing a clay mineral comprising lithium, mixing a cation source with the clay mineral, performing a high-energy mill of the clay mineral, and performing a liquid leach to obtain a lithium rich leach solution.

